

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Diana Rhoades, Chair, US Green Building Council, Sonoran Branch, (520) 982-4178,

arizonadiana@cox.net

## US Green Building Council – Sonoran Branch - contributes \$2900 to local schools 14 Tucson Schools Participate – Because Where We Learn Matters

Join students, teachers, parents and community volunteers at 14 Tucson schools for the second annual Green Apple Day of Service on Sept. 28. With other volunteers, you can plant gardens, install water-harvesting systems, paint murals and do more to make local schools healthy and productive places for students to learn.

Green Apple is a project of the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council. The Center for Green Schools is committed to placing all children in schools where they have clean and healthy air to breathe, where energy and resources are conserved, and where they can be inspired to dream of a brighter future. Why? Because *where we learn matters*.

Volunteers at the Sonoran Branch of the US Green Building Council served as a resource for finding and assisting local schools, and raised \$2900 to fund seven Green Apple projects. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year for the Green Apple awards. Last year two Tucson-area schools participated.

"Our District is proud of its green and healthy schools," said Adelita Grijalva, Chair of TUSD Governing Board. "Our teachers and students care about sustainability and go above and beyond traditional types of learning. Thanks to the Green Building Council for its support."

"The next best thing to a LEED-certified green school is a school where the kids and teachers are educating each other and the community on healthy best practices," says Diana Rhoades, Sonoran Branch chair of USGBC-Arizona. "Planting trees and plants and capturing rainwater make good economic sense, and the shade will last a lifetime."

Presidio School is the only school participating for its 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Last year the school and community came together for a block party to build a tortoise habitat and break ground on a garden. This year Presidio is hosting workshops on water conservation, a competition to design a human-powered water pump for their rainwater harvesting system and other activities.

Below is the complete list of Tucson Schools participating – per the website mygreenapple.org, including those who received grant funding. All projects start at 9 a.m. on Sept. 28, unless otherwise noted.

Drachman Montesorri Magnet School, Kristen Bury, <u>Kristen.bury@tusd1.org</u> (520) 225-1524 1085 S 10th Ave (at 22<sup>nd</sup> Street) Tucson, AZ 85701 \$500 – Clean and Green Mosaic Day (multiple activities)

Utterback Magnet Middle School, Mark Eberlein, <u>Mark.Eberlein@tusd1.org</u>, (520) 225-3576 3233 S Pinal Vista Tucson, AZ 85713

\$75 – Science Mural project using eco-paints (project in November) September 28 - Bog Spring Trail Cleanup and hike

Roskruge Bilingual, Eric Flewelling, <u>eric.flewelling@tusd1.org</u> (520) 225-2958, 501 E. 6th Street, Tucson, Arizona 85705 \$800 – Cis-Tern on the Water Works

Borton Primary Magnet School, Molly Reed, <u>molly.profeta@tusd1.org</u>, (520) 891-3225 700 E. 22nd Street Tucson, AZ 85713 \$900 – Borton Water Harvesting Basin – permaculture, planning and native plantings

Starts at 7:30 a.m.

Holladay Elementary, Elizabeth Putnam Hidalgo, <u>sukai@cox.net</u>, (520) 225-1602 1110 E 33rd St, Tucson, AZ 85713 \$75 – Outdoor Adventures – native seed planting, adobe bench-making and more

Pueblo High Magnet, Mary Wallace, mary.wallace@tusd1.org , (520) 551-0530 3500 S 12th Ave, Tucson, AZ 85713 \$300 – Pueblo Pride – tree planting, beautification of school and neighborhood October 2, 2 p.m. to 5:30 pm

Presidio School, Erin Foudy, (520) 881-5222 1695 E Fort Lowell Rd, Tucson, AZ 85719 Catch it, Save it, Use it- harvesting rain water

City High School, Josh Banno, (520) 623-7223 Jacome Plaza @ the Main Library, Tucson, AZ 85701 \$250, Downtown Gardens at Jacome Plaza- planning and planting plot of a new community garden

Safford K-8, Brenda Dickason, (520) 225-3091 200 E 13<sup>th</sup> St, Tucson, AZ 85701 Safford Beautification- beautify school, sowing wildflower seeds, planting native plants, donating vegetable seeds to the community garden

St. Mark's Preschool, Anna Kolb, (520) 325-1516 3809 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Tucson, AZ 85716

St. Mark's Volunteer Day- expanding of their community garden to teach children the benefits of growing their own vegetables and of healthy eating habits

Palo Verde High School, Karen Wadhams, (520) 584-7400 1302 Avenida Vega, Tucson, AZ 85710 Wetlands Clean Up Green Apple Service events on days other than September 28

Kellond Elementary, Scott Hagerman, (520) 584-5100, scott.hagerman@tusd1.org 6606 E Lehigh Dr, Tucson, AZ 85710 Kindness Garden-nurturing of the school gardens and grounds October 3, 6 p.m.

Manzo Elementary School (recipient of USGBC's national Best of Green Schools 2012 award for K-12 schools), Wes Oswald, (520) 225- 1900, wesley.tusd1.org 855 N Melrose Ave, Tucson, AZ 85745
September 27 - Home Energizer Program- workshops for energy efficiency in the home

Khalsa Montessori School, Siri Atma Khalsa, (520) 529-3611 371 E River Rd, Tucson, AZ 85718 October 25<sup>th</sup> - Master Recycling Presentation- recycling class

More details about the schools' Green Apple projects are available at www.mygreenapple.org. The US Green Building Council Arizona Chapter will acknowledge all the Green Apple Schools at its annual Heavy Medals Awards Banquet, to be held November 13, 2013 at the LEED certified Phoenix Convention Center. Tucson's Civano Middle School will be receiving an award for its LEED Gold building.

**About USGBC**: The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to making buildings sustainable now and for future generations. It is best known for its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) 3<sup>rd</sup> party rating system for green buildings. Follow us on Facebook: USGBCArizona, Twitter @USGBCArizona, or visit <a href="https://www.usgbcaz.org">www.usgbcaz.org</a>.

**About the Center for Green Schools:** The Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council is the organization behind the Green Apple movement, working to ensure that every student has the opportunity to attend a green school within this generation. Visit www.centerforgreenschools.org or www.mygreenapple.org.